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SUMMER 49ER



CSU applicants overwhelm enrollment capacity.

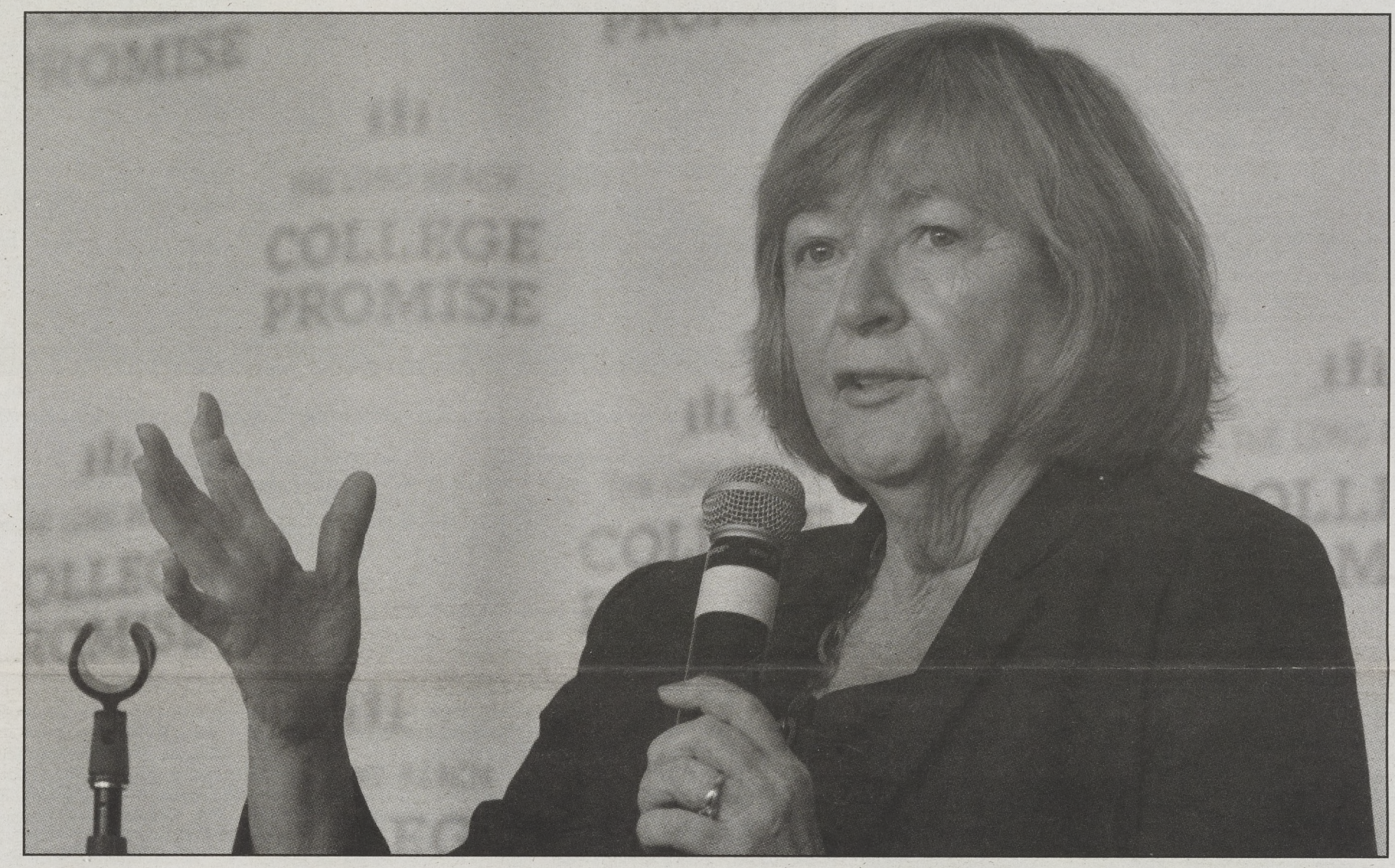


Review
"The Purge: Anarchy" fails to explore premise.



FIFA World Cup 2014 aftermath returns to business as usual.

Vol. LIX, Issue 746 www.Daily49er.com Thursday, July 24, 2014



MICHAEL ARES | DAILY 49ER

New University President Jane Close Conoley's first week on campus kicks off with a public address in the USU with new Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia.

Conoley prioritizes student success

University president explores private donations for campus.

BY CRYSTAL NIEBLA
News Editor

She tugs on her blouse, tousles her hair and takes off her glasses for a photo. She banters at situations in which most would remain frustrated, like getting chauffeured by a man in a golf cart who can't find his way around construction on campus.

He almost drove around in circles. "Well, you showed me around a little bit," she said.

Jane Close Conoley, who began her duties at The Beach on July 15, is the shy, yet sassy, person who holds the most powerful position on campus – university president.

Conoley made her first public appearance on campus Friday during an education summit with newly elected Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia.

She met with him Monday around 1 p.m. at the Chartroom to further discuss his ties with CSULB. She said he spoke about "university preschool" and "internship provision" and possibly teaching a course at CSULB for students interested in politics.

Given her background in psychology, Conoley plans to provide adequate resources to better the performance and opportunities for students at CSULB.

See **CONOLEY**, Page 3

Robert Garcia visits campus to share Long Beach Promise progress

A panel of institutional leaders visited Cal State Long Beach to talk Long Beach student success.

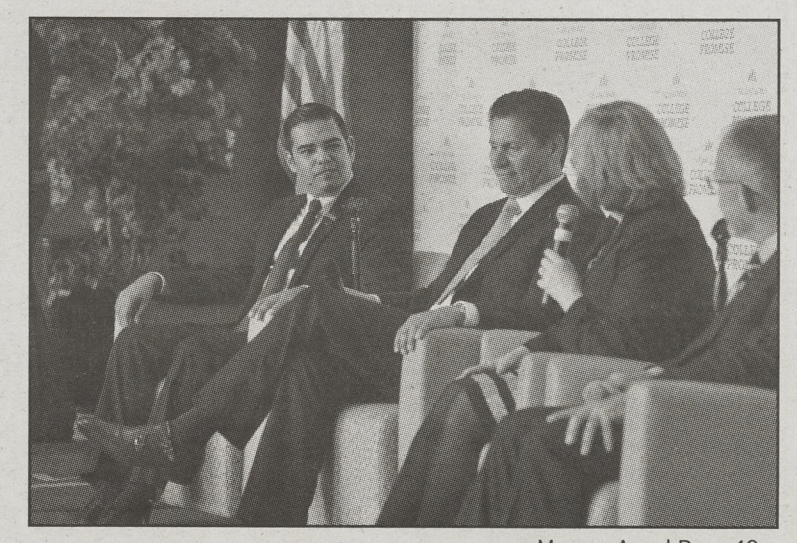
BY CRYSTAL NIEBLA
News Editor

Newly elected Mayor Robert Garcia returned to his alma matter Friday to address how Cal State Beach Long and other Long Beach educational institutions made him the "product" of the Long Beach College Promise.

Garcia publicly discussed his new policies for the first time as Long Beach's new mayor with a crowd of about 150 Long Beach community members at the University Student Union ballrooms. There, the Long Beach Unified School District, Long Beach City College and CSULB gathered in recognition of their collaboration in the Long Beach College Promise, which helps provide students in the city with access to higher education. He pledged his support to keeping the college promise strong.

As mayor, Garcia said that he intends to focus on five major initiatives: a responsible budget, economic development, open government, a sustainable city and support for the Long Beach institution.

See **GARCIA**, Page 2



MICHAEL ARES | DAILY 49ER

Long Beach education leaders meet with Mayor Robert Garcia.

BOT discusses $2.7 billion spending plan, increasing enrollment

More students are applying to CSUs, yet current funding can't support them.

By Crystal Niebla
News Editor

The California State University Board of Trustees discussed the budget expenditure plan that will receive a $142.2 million increase from the California General Fund — totaling a budget of $2.7 billion in CSU state funding.

On Tuesday, the Board reviewed the 2014-15 proposed budget and how it will prioritize funding enrollment growth, employee compensation, student success and completion, critical facility maintenance and infrastructure repairs.

The budget fell $95 million short of what the Board of Trustees originally requested in November 2013.

According to the CSU website, this year the CSU received the largest number of applications ever for fall 2014 admission — about 284,000 students sent 760,000 applications — an increase of nearly 10 percent in two years. An increasing amount of students are applying to CSUs, yet current funding cannot support the massive amount of applicants.

"When we open our door, and we want to serve that student, and if it means that we have to close the door to keep another fully qualified student out, as tough as that is, that's what we're gonna do," CSU Chancellor Timothy White said. "So that we can serve those that are coming here."

CSULB receives the most applications of any CSU in the state and is second only to University of California, Los Angeles in applicants for public universities in California.

Across the CSU system, White said that about 103 percent students are relative to state funding. The budget expenditure plan will also allow an enrollment boost of approximately 9,900 more students across the CSU for 2014-15.

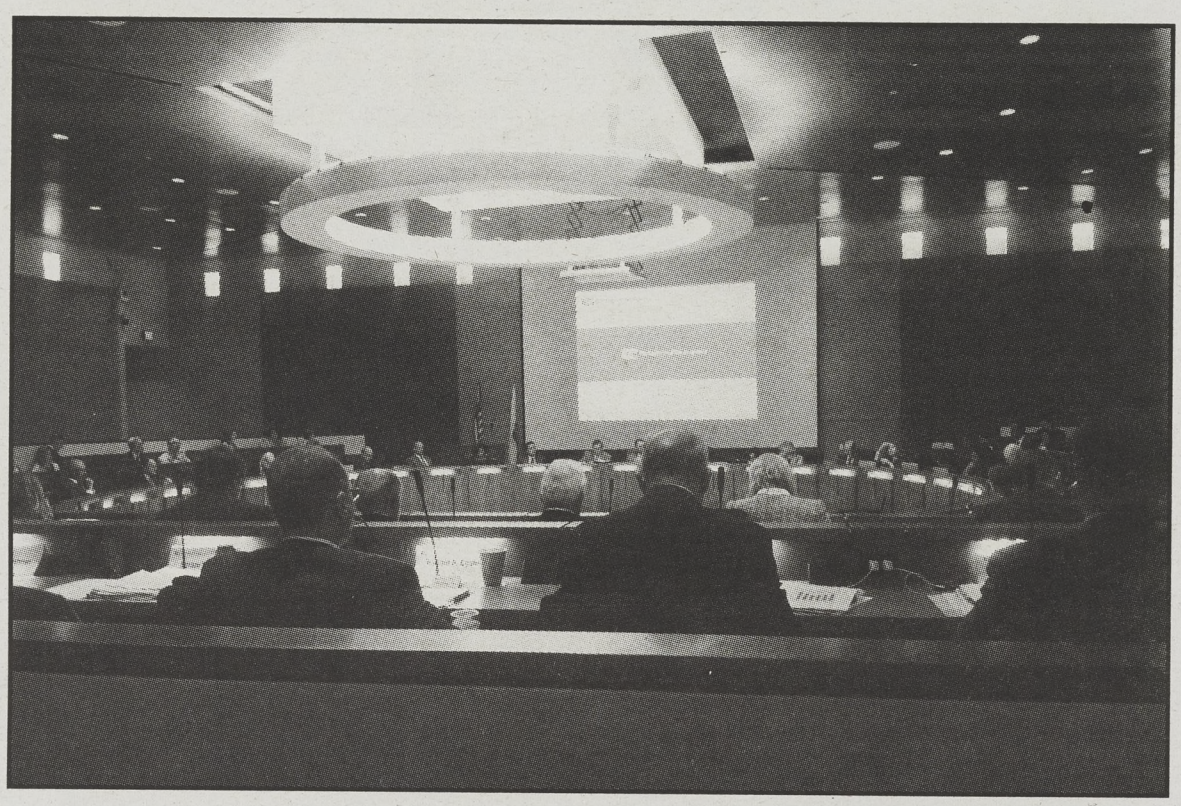
"We recognize that the schedules are off. And it's crazy; it's a crazy system — that we're accepting applications in November, accepting them in March," said vice chair of the Committee on Finance Steven M. Glazer. "We don't even know if we have the money until the end of June."

CSU employee salaries will also see an increase next fiscal year — a result of $91.6 million allocated from a 3 percent increase in the CSU employee compensation pool. Via the collective bargaining process, the Board will discuss how the employee compensation pool will be distributed.

Although all CSU employees saw a 1.34 percent salary increase in 2013-14 budget, White said that the employees "have not had any movement in their salary" since 2007-08. "So, the need was clear, and the need was profound," he said.

White said that other public state employees from systems, such as community colleges and the University of California, have all had compensation reviews.

"We can't be an outlier and continue to starve our employees at the extent of some other problematic initiative…" White said.



Crystal Niebla | Daily 49er
The CSU Board of Trustees disccusses increasing enrollment with its budget increase of $142.2 million.

Michael Ares | Daily 49er
Robert Garcia, new mayor of Long Beach, speaks on campus.

Garcia

Continued from Page 1

"I want to make sure that, as mayor, I do everything I can to support this university, our community college and our school district," Garcia said. "I want to make sure that I focus, as mayor, on education. I will be your strongest advocate in education as a product of the public education system, as a product of our university, as a product of Long Beach."

CSULB President Jane Close Conoley, who hosted the event, made her first on-campus public appearance there.

Her fourth day on campus, Conoley addressed how "notable" the results of the Long Beach College Promise have been.

Among the results, Conoley said the number of LBUSD students who attend CSULB has doubled in the last 10 years, with 618 freshman incoming from LBUSD.

Additionally, she said that CSULB now has 457 transfers from LBCC.

She said that even more amazing beyond the numbers is the fact that the numbers of students ready for college-level math and college-level English doubled and tripled, respectively.

This year CSULB had over 83,000 applicants and 54,000 of them were freshman spots, Conoley said.

"It would have been easy for us to turn away and turn our back on access as a core part of our value, but we didn't because of our partnerships with the Long Beach College Promise," she said. "It's a commitment that we have benefited from, and that we intend to keep."

Former CSULB President Robert Maxon, who was president for 28 years, gave a warm welcome to Conoley and praised Garcia for his accomplishments. He told the audience about the time when Garcia was the student body president. He said Garcia would visit Maxon in his office, and Maxon would share his views about campus plans with Garcia.

"He was listening patiently, and politely, and when I finished, he would say, 'But Mr. President, what about the students? How is this going to affect the students?' Maxon said. "Barely out of his teens, Robert understood the notion of public service."

He said Garcia will do his best to serve every citizen in Long Beach as he did for his students as student body president.

"If Robert is half as good — half as good — as mayor, as he was as student body president, he will be the best mayor in the state of California."

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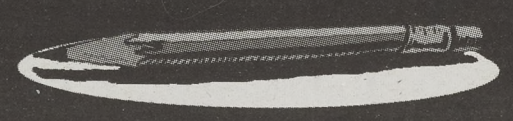
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Conoley

Continued from Page 1

Before she moved to The Beach, Conoley served as dean and professor of counseling at the Clinical and School Psychology: Gevirtz Graduate School of Education, University of California, Santa Barbara.

Conoley said that changing the colors of her accessories from UCSB's blue and gold to CSULB's black and gold will be easy.

"Now I just have to put in the black, but I have to throw away the blue," she said.

Her background may explain why she believes that those in charge can't make a plan until they know what's happening. She said she wants to familiarize herself with different programs on campus before making the right decisions.

"[Student success] is my absolute top priority, to add to that — the momentum," she said. "There's a lot of strategy and a lot of work being done on student success initiatives. We're all over the board. There [are] different students that need specifically different things."

She said she wants to find ways to generate money for CSULB, such as seeking private donors or foundations for gifts to the university — although, there is no set goal. She said that other California institutions such as the University of California have done so.

On Monday, assistant director of media relations Kenneth Swisher gave Conoley her first tour of the CSULB in what she called, "the Cadillac of golf carts." Like students, Conoley stopped by the University Bookstore to get a campus identification card.

"Have I fluffed up enough?" she asked about her hair. "It's Ken's fault for all the wind, getting nowhere."

After receiving her identification card, gifts and warm welcomes from Bookstore employees, Conoley was taken to see the free speech lawn and the Prospector Pete sculpture, located near the Liberal Arts 5 and Faculty Office 3 buildings.

Swisher then brought Conoley to CSULB's newest sculpture, "Matter-App: Pyramidial," a 20 feet high art piece that was illuminated to the public in June. There, curator of exhibitions Kristina Newhouse, among other art department and University Art Museum leaders, invited Conoley to contribute to the sculpture.

Newhouse handed Conoley a bag of mostly string-like material. She chose a red and black polyester fabric and began weaving it through the sculpture.

Conoley visited the Walter Pyramid soon after, where was greeted by Pat West, the secretary of the 49er Athletic Association. West escorted Conoley and Swisher to the trophy room, where they found Long beach state volleyball head coach Brian Gimmillaro pep-talking a group young female volleyball players not from CSULB.

After the tour, Conoley returned to her office at around 3:10 p.m. It is bare, with only a few folders of paperwork, flowers left on a table near a corner and blue post-it notes on the walls that read, "Paint."

Likewise, Conoley said the Miller House — the home she is given as president during her service at CSULB — is under maintenance to replace 30-year-old appliances, an air conditioning system and the roof. In the meantime, Conoley said that she has been staying at the Hilton Hotel on Ocean Boulevard.



Michael Ares | Daily 49er

Conoley poses with new campus ID in the University Bookstore.

CLA faculty and staff suffer two-day loss of email, wifi access

Some campus faculty blame a lack of IT communication for confusion.

By Donn Gruta
Social Media Editor

A scheduled Information Technology maintenance task caused about 400 Cal State Long Beach employees to lose access to their emails last Wednesday and Thursday, primarily hitting faculty and staff from the College of Liberal Arts.

History professor Jeffrey Blutinger, who was in the middle of organizing a week-long event during the maintenance, said he is concerned about the Information Technology Services' lack of communication.

"Just like last year, when Beachboard went down … the tech people never warn us when things like this happen," Blutinger said. "This was a planned upgrade, but ITS had not bothered to tell us what their plans were. Unfortunately, this time, their plan didn't go according to plan."

According to the CSULB ITS webpage, faculty and staff lost access to their email accounts and various other campus resources, including BeachNet+ WiFi, network printers, file shares and home directories. The listing also states that ITS had planned to restore access to these services on the same day, on Wednesday at 8 p.m., but was unable to resolve the incident until 4:30 p.m. the following day.

Despite the information posted on the ITS webpage, Blutinger and a few other professors said ITS was inefficient in alerting people who depended heavily on campus technology.

"It was impossible to find the information on the CSULB website, and I was not in the position to find out what was going on," Blutinger said. "I didn't know something was wrong until [Dean David Wallace] called me to tell me my emails were bouncing back undelivered."

Blutinger said he believes that faculty was not evenly affected, and that problems persisted for random faculty members.

Bill Mohr, an associate English professor who experienced issues last week, said he was mainly concerned about what ITS will do to better handle future problems.

"I had two important emails that were never delivered, but what's done is done," Mohr said. "My question is, why wasn't a text message sent out? Emergency alerts are available through text, so they obviously have the capacity. I understand this is not a life or death situation, but this is an important thing."

As for Butlinger, he said that despite the extra hassle, he is thankful he was able to find other ways to coordinate his event.

"We went back to 19th century technology, carrying messages by hand, meeting people to make sure all arrangements would be made," Butlinger said. "Finally, [Dean Wallace] passed my phone number to the right people to get my email restored."

After the incident was resolved, Butlinger called on to his department's Academic Senate representative and responsible administrative oversight committees via the CLA forum, asking for better ways to handle IT problems.

"When important technological services are interrupted, they need to tell people," Blutinger said in the message. "Since email cannot be used in these circumstances, perhaps a prominent notice on the webpage explaining what to do would work."

Janet Foster, associate vice president of ITS, sent an email to Wallace yesterday assuring that last week's problem was not a security breach and apologizing for the inconvenience the disruption caused. Wallace forwarded the email to CLA faculty.

"We realize that our communications can be improved," Foster said via email. "If similar incidents occur in the future, a webpage will be available with information that is easy to find for end users … We will also look into the possibility of using text messages and other means of communication if campus email is not available."

Mohr said he thinks ITS should have prepared for such an occurrence ahead of time.

"It doesn't seem like they learned a lesson from this experience," Mohr said. "To say they will look into the possibility of using text messages [is] a kind of vague bureaucratic response. I'd like to see them immediately say 'we will send a text message' — that would be addressing the issue."

Meanwhile, Bryan Jackson, director of service management operations, said text messaging may still not be a perfect solution.

Foster said that corresponding passwords to faculty members' BeachID usernames were deleted, which is what resulted in the lack of access.

"We also tried to reach anyone who had an alternate email on record, but we realized not everybody had one," Jackson said. "As with text messaging, the idea would require entering their text message information — the data has to be there."

SIMPLER TIMES by Michael Aguirre



#001

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This policy debate drones on

By Paige Pelonis
Editor-in-Chief

Noise and safety. They sound like reasonable priorities, especially if the topic of interest happens to be drones, excuse me, "unmanned aircrafts." If the National Park Service can get the ball rolling on a temporary ban on small-scale, personal-use drones within the area of a national park, purely based on these two concerns, can Americans expect to see a similar approach to the ongoing discussion of large-scale, military-use drones overseas? Fat chance.

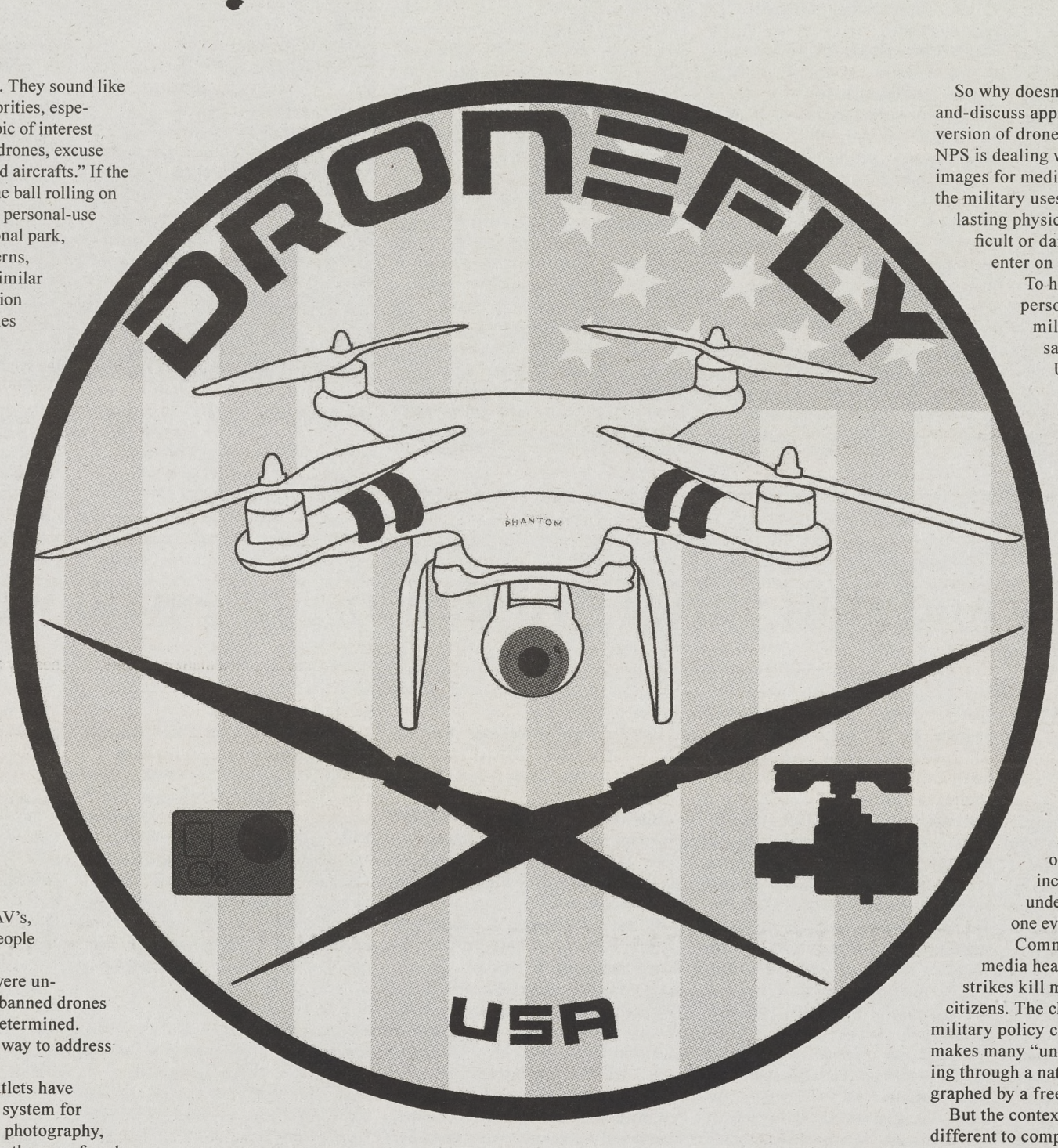
CNN reported that on June 20 the NPS announced that it would be prohibiting the use of drones from its "lands and waters…84 million acres in every state and territory." The report quoted the statement from Director Jonathan Jarvisin, which read, "It all comes down to noise and safety."

According to this report, NPS implemented this ban on drones so that an appropriate policy for their use could be determined, taking into account any negative impact "flying unmanned aircrafts" may have in national parks.

The San Gabriel Valley Tribune quoted Laura Shuman, spokesperson for the Joshua Tree National Park, earlier this week saying that the buzzing of unmanned aerial vehicles, or UAV's, within the park "made a lot of people uncomfortable."

Alright, so that's it? People were uncomfortable, so the entire NPS banned drones while an appropriate policy is determined. Sounds like an easy and simple way to address an issue like this.

They may, as some media outlets have suggested, implement a permit system for small-scale usage of drones for photography, videography, etc., in which case the use of such devices would be considered on a case-by case basis, and the time and frequency of use might be limited in order to ease the jitters of national park guests.



FACEBOOK

So why doesn't this simple, push-pause-and-discuss approach work in the larger-scale version of drone use? Well, for starters, the NPS is dealing with drones that take landscape images for media-related or artistic purposes… the military uses drones primarily to make a lasting physical impact in areas that are difficult or dangerous for soldiers to literally enter on foot, or otherwise.

To have a conversation that puts personal, domestic drone use and military drone use overseas in the same category is short-sited. The U.S. military drone program kicked off in 2001, after the 107th Congress passed the Authorization for the Use of Military Force. Can we simply hit pause, and re-evaluate our program at this point? No way.

Much like trying to legislate the Internet, which changes too rapidly for congressional gridlock to keep up with, the military use of drones overseas has expanded too much for a temporary ban to hope to contain.

The American Security Project published an in-depth background and analysis on the U.S. drone policy, which reported that, under President Obama, the frequency of U.S. drone strikes overseas has increased from one every 40 days under President George W. Bush, to one every four days.

Common critical questions amongst media headlines ask whether drone strikes kill more terrorists than foreign citizens. The chilling thought that a U.S. military policy causes far more harm than good makes many "uncomfortable," not unlike walking through a national park and being photographed by a free lancer via UAV.

But the contextual conversations are too different to compare. The NPS's temporary ban on drones is a pause for consideration of a relatively new concern. Domestic and international concerns about the U.S. military drone policy are over a decade in the making, and over a decade behind.

Daily 49er

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Gaza-Israel conflict: Blame Hamas, not Israel

By Hunter Paul
Opinions Editor

Hostilities have quickly escalated, following the recent kidnappings and murders of Israeli and Palestinian teens and the collapse of the Israeli-Palestinian peace talks. Hamas has been indiscriminately launching a barrage of rockets at civilian population centers. Last Thursday, Hamas inserted 13 jihadist gunmen armed with rocket-propelled grenades beneath Israel's southern border using a secret tunnel in an effort to carry out attacks on Jewish civilians and soldiers. In response, Israel launched airstrikes to target rocket sites and weapons caches in Gaza; additionally, Israel initiated a limited ground offensive into Gaza in order to seek and destroy the types of tunnels which Hamas has used in the past to kidnap or kill both soldiers and civilians.

Millions of citizens in both Israel, and Hamas-controlled Gaza, face a constant barrage from the air: Hamas has indiscriminately launched over 1,760 rockets at civilian population centers and Israel's defense forces have targeted combatants in the Gaza strip, regrettably causing civilian casualties. Despite Israel's acceptance of an Egyptian brokered ceasefire agreement on Tuesday, Hamas immediately rejected it, electing instead to continue the conflict and endanger the safety and well being of civilians on both sides.

While any discussion regarding the Israeli-Palestinian issue invariably evokes hot tempers on both sides, this piece is not meant to rile emotions; rather, it is meant to objectively assess which side to blame for this current conflict. The events undoubtedly indicate that Hamas is fully culpable for this third round of open conflict since Hamas seized control of Gaza in 2007. Even Mahmoud Abbas, the sometimes moderate president of the Palestinian Authority, posed this question last Thursday on Palestine TV to his rivals in Hamas: "What are you trying to achieve by sending rockets?"

The answer is as chilling as it is morally reprehensible: Hamas, the Sunni Islamist political organization regarded by Israel, the U.S. and the European Union as a terrorist organization, started this latest conflict in order to kill as many civilians as possible, including its own fellow Palestinians. When a rocket kills an Israeli citizen, Hamas wins – Gazan civilians rally around the flag, and by the twisted standards of Palestinian politics, Hamas' moral authority to govern Gaza, as opposed to its growing rivals, Islamic Jihad, is strengthened. When Israel accidentally kills a Palestinian, Hamas still wins; dead Palestinians are an indispensable element of Hamas' propaganda war against Israel.

As evidence that Hamas has no regard for the lives of Palestinian civilians, the UN reported this Thursday that it found 20 rockets in a school; additionally, Hamas spokesman Sami Abu Zuhri urged Palestinians to adopt human shield tactics and stated on Al-Aqsa TV that "The policy of people confronting the Israeli warplanes with their bare chests in order to protect their homes has proven effective against the occupation… We in Hamas call upon our people to adopt this policy." Essentially, dead civilians on either side benefit Hamas, and its leaders are ruthlessly seeking this goal.

Former President Bill Clinton placed the blame entirely on Hamas' shoulders, asserting that Hamas' strategic play here is to force Israel to kill Palestinians. He bluntly put it thus during an interview with India's NDTV this Thursday: "Hamas was perfectly well aware of what would happen if they started raining rockets into Israel. They fired one thousand, and they have a strategy designed to force Israel to kill their own civilians so that the rest of the world will condemn [Israel]." Although the casualties are indeed lopsided, this fact by no means forecloses Israel's right to defend its civil society. The difference between Israel's military and Hamas is that Israel uses the Iron Dome missile defense system to defend its civilians while Hamas uses Palestinian civilians to defend its missiles.

The truth is that no country can idly stand by as its civilians are indiscriminately fired upon, and to expect Israel to do otherwise under the false banner of human rights is illogical and borderline anti-Semitic. The Israeli military possesses the capability to level the entire Gaza strip in a matter of hours. However, Israel is constrained by international pressure, by its own morality and by the understanding that Palestinian deaths are a PR nightmare. It has shown remarkable restraint in the current conflict by telephoning Gazan civilians to warn about impending airstrikes, by calling off airstrikes when human shields form around intended targets, by dropping warning charges (so-called roof knocking) and by unilaterally declaring a ceasefire in order to allow Gazans to leave their homes and access food.

The violence in this latest bout in the seemingly never-ending Israeli-Palestinian conflict is already gruesome, and the amount of victims will only keep increasing; however, Hamas could save the lives of Gaza's civilians by immediately ceasing its rocket strikes against civilians in Israel. The decision is entirely up to Hamas to pursue peace or to continue its terrorist activities; nevertheless, Israel is entirely within its right to defend its civilian population from Hamas' terrorist activities, which include constant missile salvos and infiltrations with heavily armed jihadists.

Right to be forgotten must be extended to Americans

By Michael Wood
Opinions Assistant

Today, Google is 16 years old. Facebook is 10 years old, and Youtube is 9 years old. In the fast-moving world of the Internet, which has only been around in a useful form for approximately 20 years, these sites have become institutions. In fact, many of us have had accounts on these sites since we were fairly young, still in elementary and middle school. We were the first generation to grow up with easy and almost ubiquitous access to the Internet and social media. Of course, when we first approached these new concepts as young people, we made mistakes. We left stupid comments, we had ridiculous exchanges with other people online and we might've even held opinions that would make our adult selves cringe.

So as we become aware of how permanent the Internet is, as we become aware of the fact that it is not merely a fad, we have to begin thinking about our rights when it comes to using it. We have to gain the right to be forgotten.

Recently, the European Union instituted new rules guaranteeing the right to be forgotten, including the right to petition search engines to take down content about yourself that you find objectionable, incorrect or irrelevant. Since May 30, search engines have been required to listen to requests from ordinary Europeans to have content removed under the right to be forgotten doctrine. Armed with an army of paralegals to process these requests, Google has taken on the issue in a decisive way.

Imagine that several years ago, you said something objectionable. Maybe you went on a tirade against another person who had irked you, or you said something that reflected on you poorly as a responsible adult. If you had said it face to face, over the phone or mailed it to someone, very little in way of records of that would exist. Only those who managed to remember the misstep, or who kept the letter, might have held a less-than-favorable opinion of you. But if you posted it online? Well, in that case, it's public record. One misstep from several years ago can paint a terrible picture of you for the rest of the world.

Seeing now that the Internet is not a fad, that it will not disappear in the future, it's time for us to concern ourselves with our online legacy. In a world without the right to be forgotten, or the right to dictate what is done with your online profiles after you die, your life becomes an open book, up to interpretation and debate. Whether you are a janitor, a bureaucrat or a celebrity, your life will be a matter of public discussion.

However, if you are allowed to delete these profiles when you die, if you're allowed the freedom to be forgotten and we recognize the limits of this technology in the interest of privacy, not much will change, and those who live their life out of the public spotlight will be afforded the privacy of that position.

Most of us will never be public figures. Most of us won't release a hit single, run for congress, star in a TV show or write a best-selling novel. The Internet, as it's structured today, doesn't seem to protect the benefits of this status. With protection of both journalistic freedom and the right to privacy in mind, the right to be forgotten can revolutionize how we see ourselves in the public sphere and online.

GOT AN OPINION?

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'The Purge' sequel falls short on the anarchy

"The Purge: Anarchy" expands on its world without very much creativity.

By Greg Diaz
Design Assistant

"The Purge: Anarchy" tries really hard to sell its premise. Throughout the movie everyone talks about the way the annual purge night has reshaped the country. Yet, for as much as everyone talks about the new world order, the ramifications of this world continue to be underdeveloped.

"The Purge" was the surprise hit of 2013. The film was made for $3 million and grossed $64 million at the domestic box office. Other than the high-concept premise, there was very little to distinguish it from similar home invasion films like "The Strangers" and "Funny Games."

The premise that for 12 hours each year all crime is made legal by the government could have some interesting ramifications. Unfortunately, the film has a limited understanding of how to explore this concept.

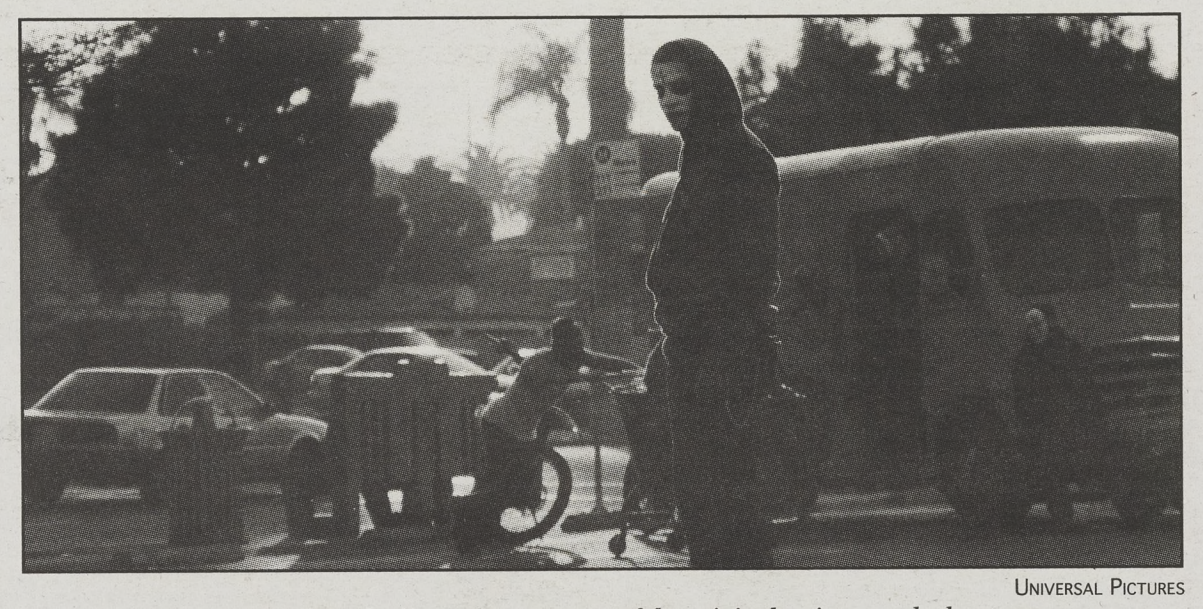
"The Purge: Anarchy" reaches the conclusion that a good chunk of this country would only use this night free of consequences to unleash their inner sociopath, killing people indiscriminately. This one note obscures the potential of the film to explore what regular people would do with a night without laws, which could be far more interesting.

The film follows a group of strangers who band together to survive the night, while being pursued by roaming gangs of killers. Frank Grillo, fresh off "Captain America: The Winter Soldier," gives a solid performance as a police sergeant out for revenge against the man who killed his son. Carmen Ejogo and Zoë Soul play mother and daughter who are being hunted for reasons beyond the audience's comprehension.

Shane (Zach Gilford) and Liz (Kiele Sanchez) round out the group as a couple whose car breaks down right as purge night begins. They also represent one of the biggest issues with the film, as despite their presence throughout the story, they develop no realistic characteristics that are relatable.

Where "The Purge" relied on the tricks of haunted house films to create scares, the sequel mostly drops the pretense that it is a horror movie and, instead, focuses on violence. Yet, for a movie that has "anarchy" in the title, there is surprisingly little going on. Part of this is due to difficult task of creating chaos with a relatively modest $9 million dollar budget. It is also due to that fact that the film is set in a major metropolitan city, yet there are many shots of quiet, empty streets throughout.

If you can enjoy the moments of unintentional comedy, "The Purge: Anarchy" might be worth a watch. For fans hoping for an in-depth exploration of the world introduced by "The Purge," they will have to wait for the inevitable three-quel.



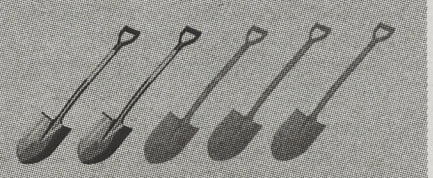
Universal Pictures

"The Purge: Anarchy" fails to duplicate the successes of the original as it expands the story.

The Purge: Anarchy

Dir: James DeMonaco
Starring: Frank Grillo, Carmen Ejogo, Zach Gilford
Run Time: 103 min
MPAA Rating: R

2 shovels out of 5



'Never Hungover Again' marks a turning point for Joyce Manor

The band may be maturing, but they aren't joining AA any time soon.

By Michael Wood
Opinions Assistant

"Never Hungover Again" is more than an album title, it's a statement of maturity. Joyce Manor, a relatively young band with a very youthful fan base, has done the thing that many of their fans have feared: they have grown up.

Nevertheless, the fears of the pop punk band abandoning its short, simultaneously happy and sad songs for radio-friendly pop have been unfounded. Joyce Manor manages to mature and still stay true to their roots.

First off, the length of the album is short, incredibly short. Clocking in below 20 minutes, it stays true to the rest of their releases, with short songs usually falling short of the two-minute mark. This is no surprise to fans of the band, who have come to expect catchy, loud and emotional songs without choruses from the band. Needless to say, "Never Hungover Again" doesn't deviate from the formula that made Joyce Manor successful, but it does experiment a bit.

Songs like "Christmas Card" and "End of the Summer" sound more like the emo pop sound that pervades modern rock radio, but that isn't a bad thing. Joyce Manor are well known in the underground punk scene, but in the bigger pond of alternative rock they haven't made a big impression yet. The sound on these tracks is completely organic, not forced or cheap, and it still carries the distinctive Joyce Manor sound – a bipolar mix of sad and cheery elements thrown together throughout.

Older fans of Joyce Manor still have plenty to enjoy in the album. Whiffs of the self-titled album are evident throughout, particularly in songs like "Heart Tattoo" and "Victoria" where a more bass guitar driven sound stands up to the scrutiny of even the most cold-hearted punk purist.

Overall, the only thing that "Never Hungover Again" is missing is the raucous sing-alongs of the self-titled album. It's a shame that there were no points on the album that tempted you to shout the lyrics alongside the track, which was a huge part of the appeal of almost every other Joyce Manor release. It may simply be the fact that the release is still fresh, and the songs haven't had a chance to sink in yet, but there were few tracks on the album that sounded like instant classics.

Of course, these are lofty expectations, but Joyce Manor have earned them. While "Never Hungover Again" may not be cut from the same cloth as the self titled album, it is still a solid album, and it is easily one of the best punk releases of 2014.

It remains to be seen whether it will have the same impact as the rest of their discography, but it's clear that this album will reach out to a whole new audience. With singles like "Schley" and "Catalina Fight Song" getting airplay on KROQ, it's clear that this album isn't trying to be another underground magnum opus. This release marks an introduction to those outside of the punk scene. In that regard, it's one amazing first impression.

The band is scheduled to play a free show at Amoeba Music in Hollywood on Thursday at 6 p.m. to celebrate the new album release. They will also headline an official release show at El Rey Theatre on Friday night, which is sure to have the crowd moving.



Facebook

Joyce Manor grows up, which is the thing fans have long feared.

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Back to 'business as usual' after World Cup

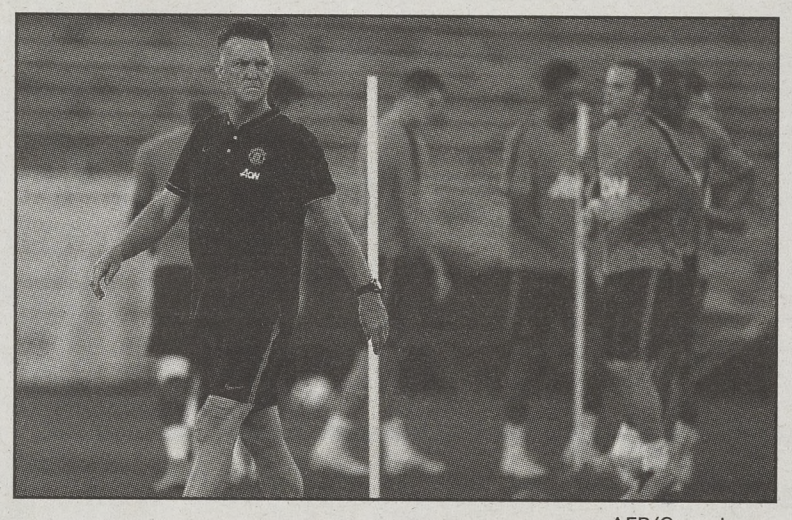
Summer soccer tries to stay in the spotlight with talks of high-profile player movements.

By Oscar Terrones
Sports Assistant

With the World Cup now firmly in our memories, the soccer world returns to business as usual as clubs try to improve via the transfer window.

Soccer's summer transfer season, which lasts from July 1 to August 31, is rampant with speculation and false rumors. Though it could be very entertaining for fans to follow, clubs tend to avoid media outlets in order to not get caught up with the wave of lies.

There have been, however, several confirmed reports of major player movement since the end of the World Cup. It all started with volatile superstar Luis Suarez being purchased from Liverpool of the English Premier League by Spanish powerhouse Barcelona for a transfer fee of $128 million.



AFP/Getty Images

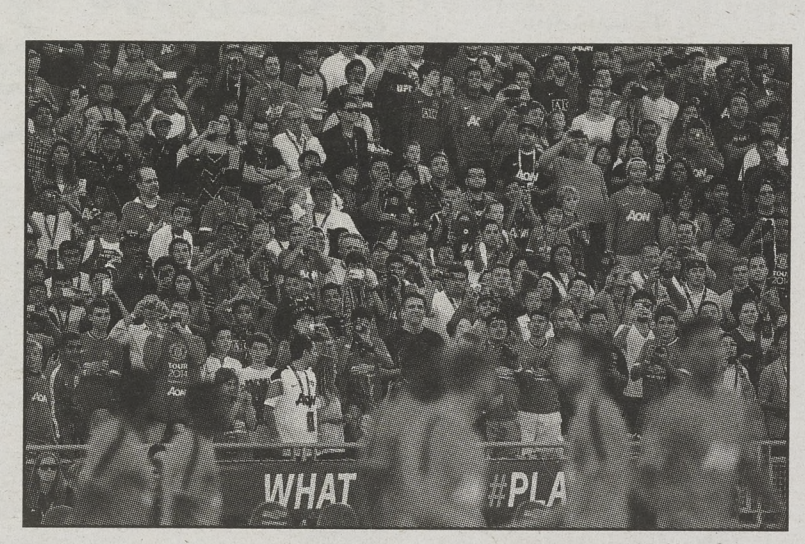
United's manager Louis van Gaal shows off his infamous temper as his team prepares to play against the LA Galaxy.

Suarez desperately needed a fresh start after his infamous World Cup, where he wound up being suspended four months because he bit an opponent. He'll be in a great situation with Barca, surrounded by fellow superstars Lionel Messi and Neymar.

It didn't take long for people to notice Golden Boot winner James Rodriguez, by far the most impressive player at the World Cup. The Colombian superstar was acquired by Real Madrid for a transfer fee of $108 million.

Rodriguez was at his best when everyone was watching, but he is joining an absurdly crowded attack in Real Madrid. Cristiano Ronaldo, Karim Benzema, Gareth Bale, Luka Modriç, Isco and Sami Khedira are all high-paid stars who need playing time. But, having too much talent is never a bad thing.

Along with major player movement, several high-profile stars have announced their retirements from the respective national teams. Philipp Lahm, Germany's World Cup-winning captain, announced that he's retiring after 10 years with the national club. The decision came as a bit of a surprise, as Lahm is still only 30 years old. The defender finished with 113 caps, just 37 from the all-time record held by Lothar Matthäus.



AFP/Getty Images

Fans take pictures in the stands at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, where Manchester United played the LA Galaxy yesterday.

Steven Gerrard, another major fixture for his national team, announced his retirement from England after 14 years. The English captain finished with 21 goals in 114 caps. Though he's had a brilliant career with Club Liverpool, Gerrard has been a part of many recent underachieving English squads.

With the transfer season also comes preseason competition, during which some of the best clubs in the world travel to other countries to play friendlies. This is a great chance for fans to catch their favorite teams in person, when normally that opportunity wouldn't be available.

For the start of its annual U.S. Tour, Manchester United will travel to Los Angeles to play the MLS' Galaxy. Man U's new manager, Louis Van Gaal, is fresh off a successful World Cup run as Holland's manager. In addition to playing the Galaxy, Man U will play Serie A's Roma and Inter Milan, and finish off against Real Madrid in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

LBSU soccer coach witnesses defeat of his home team in person

Head coach Mauricio Ingrassia's favorite team is Rosario Central, his hometown club team.

By Oscar Terrones
Sports Assistant

We all have memories of watching the World Cup, ditching school to catch the start of a match, or sprinting to a bar during lunch break at work. One way or another, we were not going to miss a game-changing play.

Most of us have only experienced the World Cup through our TV or computer screens. But for Long Beach State women's soccer coach Mauricio Ingrassia, that has just never been good enough.

Ingrassia, who was born and raised in Rosario, Argentina, has been to the last five World Cups, hoping to celebrate a World Cup victory in person.

Though he moved to the United States as a young child, his allegiance toward the Argentina national team never wavered.

"Growing up, soccer was very huge [in Argentina]," Ingrassio said. "It filled a part of me when I was very young."

For this year's World Cup in Brazil, Ingrassia managed to catch three matches – all from the knockout stage of the tournament.

Having attended multiple World Cups allows Ingrassia to have a rare point of view toward the experience. He heaped nothing but praise on the host country.

"It was unbelievable," Ingrassia said. "It's a major fútbol country. It was a fantastic experience. It's always fun to go and experience new culture."

Ingrassia says that he also roots for the United States national team, but as a young man growing up it was "nonexistent," though he admits there has been significant progress under the leadership of Jürgen Klinsmann.

"There's a very good perception of the United States," Ingrassia said. "I know it's kind of divided here, but over there they have a lot of respect for the U.S."

Ingrassia says he follows soccer in general. Barcelona, Arsenal and Manchester City are some of the more high profile teams he keeps an eye on. He even mentions an amazing trip he took to Portland to watch the Timbers.

But the club he pledges his allegiance to isn't a powerhouse by any means. It's little-known Rosario Central, the club from his hometown. It's a bond he can't break, and one he doesn't want to.

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